

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 00893 031319Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7267

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO

US MISSION UN IMMEDIATE 1295

AMCONSUL THESSALOKIKI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: FM BITSIOS ON INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

REF: USUN 346

1. FM DIMITRI BITSIOS IN HIS REGULAR WEEKLY PRESS BRIEFING FEBRUARY 1 (BEFORE OUR RECEIPT OF REFTEL) COMMENTED ON THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN CONNECTION WITH THE GOG REPLY TO UNSYG WALDHEIM'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING IMPLEMENTATION OF PERTINENT UN RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS. PRESS REPORTED PROMINENTLY BITSIOS' REMARKS AS WELL AS TEXT OF GOG REPLY TO UNSYG WALDHEIM (SEPTTEL).

2. FM BITSIOS TOLD NEWSMEN THAT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAVE NOT BEEN MARKED BY PROGRESS. MOREOVER, THERE WAS NO PROGRESS AT FRIDAY'S MEETING BETWEEN CLERIDES AND
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 00893 031319Z

DENKTASH DURING WHICH, HE SAID, DENKTASH WAS COMPLETELY

NEGATIVE. FM BITSIOS CONTINUED THAT DENKTASH SAID THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. WITH REGARD TO THE OPERATION OF THE NICOSIA AIRPORT AND THE PORT OF FAMAGUSTA, BITSIOS REMARKED THAT DENKTASH DID NOT ANNOUNCE ANY NEW ELEMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED PROGRESS IN THE TALKS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME HE WAS COMPLETELY SILENT ON THE SUBJECT OF THE REPATRIATION OF THE GREEK CYPRIOT REFUGEES. BITSIOS ADDED THAT IT WAS THE GREEK GOVERNMENT'S FIRM PURPOSE NOT TO ALLOW A DEADLOCK IN THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

3. THE GREEK FM POINTED OUT THAT AFTER MANY EFFORTS, AND THE MEETINGS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN BRUSSELS, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE TALKS BE RESUMED WITH THE OBJECT OF RESOLVING HUMANITARIAN MATTERS WHICH HAD AN URGENT CHARACTER. AND FINALLY, AFTER CONTINUOUS OBSTRUCTIVE ACTIONS ON THE TURKISH-CYPRIOT SIDE, THE TALKS BEGAN TO CONSIDER POLITICAL MATTERS ON JANUARY 14. HOWEVER, SINCE THAT DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO PROGRESS BECAUSE OF THE DELAYING TACTICS OF THE TURKS.

4. BITSIOS CONCLUDED THAT THE BRITISH ACTION TO ALLOW THE TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUGEES ON THE BRITISH BASES TO GO TO TURKEY, WHICH HAD BEEN ANNOUNCED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE BEGINNING OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS ON POLITICAL MATTERS, CREATED A PSYCHOLOGICAL CLIMATE OF TENSION AND PROVOKED A JUSTIFIED INDIGNATION.
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